

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PCH-02 FPC-01 EB-11 SCEM-02 L-03 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INT-08 /064 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/ CAN: EVNEF: MGS

04/19/73 EXT 22717

APPROVED BY EUR: RZSMITH

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R 192338 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

INFO AMCONSUL VANCOUVER BY POUCH

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SENV, CA

SUBJ: SKAGIT RIVER

1. FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES SUBSTANCE OF NOTE DELIVERED TO
MCKINNEY OF CANADIAN EMBASSY BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY
SMITH ON APRIL 19, 1973:

WHILE DEPARTMENT PREPARED AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO INITIATION
OF TALKS, SHOULD BE POINTED OUT SEATTLE INTENDS PROCEED
WITH APPLICATION BEFORE FPC AND WOULD TAKE PART IN DIS-
CUSSIONS ONLY ON UNDERSTANDING THAT SCHEDULE FOR HEARINGS
NOT IN ANY WAY JEOPARDIZED. SEATTLE WANTS IT UNDERSTOOD
THAT PARTICIPATION WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY IMPLY AGREEMENT
THAT PROJECT NOT TO BE BUILT.

DEPARTMENT HAS NOTED PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY CANADIAN
AUTHORITIES THAT ONLY MATTER TO BE DISCUSSED IS POSSI-
BLE COMPENSATION TO SEATTLE IF IT SHOULD RELINQUISH ITS
RIGHT TO FLOOD SKAGIT VALLEY. WHILE DEPARTMENT PREPARED
LISTEN TO ANY PROPOSAL ALONG THESE LINES AND ASSUMES
SEATTLE ALSO WOULD, IT DOUBTS THAT PROPOSAL WOULD OFFER
ALTERNATIVE SATISFACTORY TO SEATTLE IF BY COMPENSATION
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IS MEANT ONLY A PAYMENT OF DOLLARS IN AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO THE VALUE OF THE RIGHT SO RELINQUISHED.

ON OTHER HAND, IF COMPENSATION WERE IN FORM OF REPLACEMENT ENERGY, PROPOSAL TO THIS EFFECT FROM CANADIAN AUTHORITIES MIGHT OFFER MORE PROMISING AVENUE OF EXPLORATION.

BEFORE SUGGESTING TIME AND PLACE FOR INITIATION OF TALKS, DEPARTMENT WOULD NEED TO CONSULT FURTHER WITH SEATTLE AND WOULD FIND IT HELPFUL IN MEANTIME TO HAVE MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON AGENDA WHICH GOC MAY HAVE IN MIND. IN PARTICULAR IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW IF CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE PREPARED EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF REPLACING FROM SOURCES WITHIN CANADA ADDITIONAL POWER WHICH PROPOSED PROJECT WOULD PROVIDE IF CARRIED TO COMPLETION. END SUMMARY.

2. FULL TEXT BY POUCH. PORTER

NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED.

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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